(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date 6 November 2003 (06.11.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 03/092289 A1

(51) International Patent Classification7:

H04N 7/173

(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP03/50120

(22) International Filing Date: 22 April 2003 (22.04.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 02291020.2

23 April 2002 (23.04.2002) E

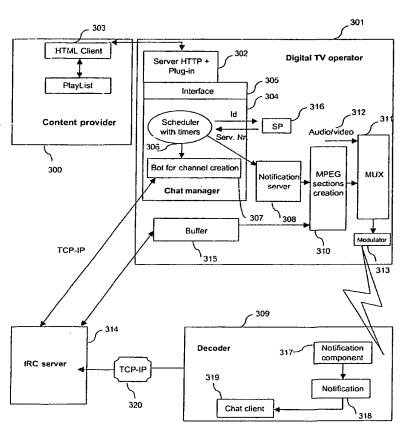
- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): CANAL+ TECHNOLOGIES [FR/FR]; 34 Place Raoul Dautry, F-75906 cedex 15 Paris (FR).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BOUILLOUX-LA-FONT, Hélène [FR/FR]; c/o Canal+ Technologies, 34 Place Raoul Dautry. F-75906 cedex 15 Paris (FR). AGLAN, Issam [FR/FR]; c/o Canal+ Technologies,

34 Place Raoul Dautry, F-75906 cedex 15 Paris (FR). LEMAITRE, Hervé [FR/FR]; c/o Canal+ Technologies, 34 Place Raoul Dautry, F-75906 cedex 15 Paris (FR). TESSIER, Emmanuel [FR/FR]; c/o Canal+ Technologies, 34 Place Raoul Dautry, F-75906 cedex 15 Paris (FR).

- (74) Agent: WEIHS, Bruno; Rosenthal & Osha, 121 avenue des Champs Elysées, F-75008 Paris (FR).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: CHAT FOR TELEVISION NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A chat system for a digital television network comprises a digital operator head end system (301) for broadcasting to subscriber decoders (309). The head end system comprises a chat room creation device (307) which communicates with a chat server (314) to create, cancel and/or join an event related chat room, a timer device (306) which may be programmed to activate itself at the occurrence of an event and automatically sends a request for creation of a chat room to the chat room creation device, a broadcast device (310, 311, 313) used for preparing a transmission of information to the subscriber decoders. and a notification server (308) to generate a notification message to be transmitted by the broadcast device, the notification message being related to the creation of an event related chat room.

WO 03/092289 A1